

IN THE CLAIMS:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of the claims in the application:

1-17. (Cancelled)

18. (Currently amended) A method for killing organisms and removing of toxic substances from an enclosure, which comprises the steps of:

providing at least one ingress duct communicating with said interior of said enclosure;

heating an environmentally acceptable gas to a temperature lethal to ~~predetermined~~ organisms comprising insects and at least one of fungi and bacteria;

directing said heated gas into said enclosure through said at least one ingress duct for a time sufficient to raise the temperature of said enclosure to said lethal temperature; and

extracting ~~said heated gas and~~ fine particulate remains from said dead organisms suspended ~~therein~~ in the heated gas from said enclosure by ~~venting and~~ filtering said heated gas to remove microscopic particles during at least a substantial portion of said directing step.

19. (Previously presented) The method according to Claim 18, wherein said extracting step further includes passing said heated gas through a HEPA filter.

20. (Currently amended) A method for sanitizing an enclosed structure having an exterior and an interior, comprising the steps of:

disposing a plurality of temperature-indicating probes within said enclosed structure;

heating a gas;

directing said heated gas within said enclosed structure so as to maintain a flow of said heated gas within said enclosed structure;

monitoring the temperature within said enclosure using said probes during at least a substantial portion of said directing step, to determine when said enclosed structure reaches a sufficiently high temperature for sanitizing said enclosed structure; and

filtering said heated gas to remove suspended microscopic particles from said enclosed structure during at least a substantial portion of said directing step.

21. (Previously presented) The method according to Claim 20, wherein said sufficiently high temperature is at least about 120°F.

22. (Previously presented) The method according to Claim 20, wherein said filtering step further comprises passing said heated gas through a HEPA filter.

23. (Currently amended) The method according to Claim 20, wherein said filtering step further comprises drawing a vented portion of said heated gas through a filter.

24–25. (Cancelled)

26. (Currently amended) A method for exterminating toxic organisms in a structure, ~~said toxic organisms comprising at least one of fungi; toxic molds, and bacteria~~, said method comprising the steps of:

heating a gas;

directing said heated gas in an interior portion of an enclosed structure so as to heat at least said interior portion to a temperature that is hot enough, when maintained for a period of time, to kill said toxic organisms comprising at least one of fungi and bacteria;

maintaining an interior of said enclosed structure at not less than said temperature for a not less than said period of time; and

filtering said heated gas from said enclosed structure during at least a substantial portion of said maintaining step using a filter operable to capture suspended remains of said toxic organisms.

27. (Previously presented) The method according to Claim 26, wherein said temperature is at least about 120°F.

28. (Previously presented) The method according to Claim 26, further comprising disposing a plurality of temperature-indicating probes to monitor temperature at different locations within said enclosed structure.

29. (Previously presented) The method according to Claim 28, further comprising connecting said temperature-indicating probes to a console disposed outside said enclosed structure.

30. (Previously presented) The method according to Claim 26, wherein said filtering step further comprises passing said heated gas through said filter, said filter comprising a HEPA filter.

31-35. (Cancelled)

36. (Previously presented) The method according to Claim 26, wherein said filtering step further comprises drawing said heated gas through the filter using a downstream blower.

37. (Previously presented) The method according to Claim 26, wherein said filtering step further comprises removing said heated gas from said interior portion of said structure during at least a portion of said filtering step.

38. (Previously presented) The method of Claim 37, further comprising returning filtered gas to said interior portion after said filtering step.

39. (Previously presented) The method of Claim 26, further comprising applying a suction downstream of said filter.

40. (Previously presented) The method of Claim 26, wherein said heating step is performed outside said enclosed structure.

41. (Cancelled)

42. (Previously presented) The method of Claim 26, wherein said directing step further comprises directing said heated gas into said interior portion using at least one duct.

43. (Previously presented) The method of Claim 26, wherein said maintaining step further comprises maintaining said temperature for not less than about one hour.